

Staged Violence and Intimacy

All staged violence or intimacy must be approved by the SATCo staff and board at the earliest possible date. Approval must be obtained before violence or intimate choreography is integrated into rehearsal. SATCo holds the right to reject requests for staged violence or intimacy, or to revoke their approval at any time, without explanation, to protect the parties involved and the SATCo staff and board.

SATCo will evaluate each request to determine the complexity and nature of the violence or intimacy. In cases of violence or intimacy that is complex, abundant, or otherwise difficult, SATCo will request that the production seek the aid of a qualified Department faculty or staff member. If no qualified person is available for this purpose, the production will be asked to remove or alter the violence or intimacy. In cases where the staged violence or intimacy is not deemed complex, abundant, or otherwise difficult, the director is permitted to choreograph those moments or bring on another production team member, at their discretion.

Whenever possible, directors and stage managers should inform those auditioning for their production of any foreseen staged violence and intimacy.

Staged Violence

Staged violence includes any physical aggression depicted onstage. Some examples include unarmed strikes, use of weapons, and the depiction of wrestling or martial arts. Any party involved in rehearsal or performance (actor, stage manager, director, etc.) may request staged violence procedures for other unusual physical requirements in a scene, such as falling, tumbling, simulated seizures, simulated drowning and more.

All uses of staged violence must be choreographed and rehearsed in a safe and controlled environment.

All uses of staged violence must be run, with supervision by the director, stage manager, or another production team member, before each performance, in a fight call. This includes tech dress and dress rehearsals.

Staged Intimacy

Staged intimacy includes intimate touching of any kind, especially in a sexual context. Some examples include kissing, groping, simulated sex, or simulated sexual violence. Any party involved in rehearsal or performance (actor, stage manager, director, etc.) may request intimacy procedures for other physical contact in a scene, such as hugging or non-sexual touching.

All productions must abide by the University of Victoria Department of Theatre's Discrimination, Harassment & Sexual Violence Guidelines for a Respectful Learning Environment, which can be found on the back board.

When rehearsing and integrating staged intimacy, there must be a third party present other than the director and actors. The third party can be a stage manager, SATCo liaison, approved faculty member, or appointed intimacy choreographer/coach.